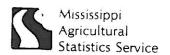
MISSISSIPPI VEEKLY WEATHER & CROP REPORT

WEEK ENDING: March 31, 1991

RELEASED:



U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Department of Agriculture &
Commerce
The Mississippi Cooperative
Extension Service
U.S. Dept. Of Commerce

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WEATHER SUMMARY (NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE):

April 1, 1991

The last week of March was marked by above normal temperatures including a few record highs, flooding, damaging winds and even snow flurries. During the early part of the week, temperatures were well above normal. Record highs were set at Stoneville on the 25th and Tupelo on the 26th. A strong low pressure moved into the area during the afternoon of the 28th and brought damaging winds to some central counties. It also produced widespread rainfall which caused flooding of some rivers especially on the upper Pearl, Yazoo and Tombigbee basins. Rainfall was well above normal except over the coastal and south–central locations. Greatest one day rainfall was 5.05 at Forest with Jackson close behind with 4.66 inches. Temperature extremes ranged from 88 degrees at Bay St. Louis on the 24th to 30 degrees at both Corinth and luka on the 30th. Snow flurries moved into the northern counties on the afternoon of the 29th, as a cold front moved into the area.

3:00 P.M.

CROP SUMMARY: There were 3.9 days suitable for fieldwork last week compared to 2.5 days last year and 3.5 for the 5-year average. Soil moisture was rated 65% adequate, 28% surplus and 7% excessive, with a temperature of 64 degrees. Hay supply was rated 62% short, 38% adequate, while feed grain was rated 38% short, 62% adequate. The main farm activities were land preparation and fertilization and planting corn.

Wheat was 57% jointing compared to last year's 81% and 72% for the 5-year average. Wheat heading 1%, 10% in 1990. Wheat conditions were rated 16% poor, 57% fair, 27% good. Watermelons were 29% planted compared to 30% last year and 20% for the 5-year average. Livestock was rated 39% fair, 59% good and 2% excellent. Corn was 38% planted compared to last year's 19% and 22% for the 5-year average. Corn had emerged 22% compared to 10% last year. Rice was 3% planted, 4% in 1990. Sorghum was 5% planted compared to 3% in 1990.

"COMMENTS"

QUITMAN CO AGT "Wheat shows very little disease pressure, rice fields still very wet. Most of cotton ground rowed-up."

TUNICA CO AGT "Farmers used the good weather last week to full advantage. Most of the cotton land has been rowed-up and fertilizer applied."

DESOTO CO SCS "Some corn has been planted in the last week. Cool, wet weather will probably delay planting until after the first of April, wheat looks good."

LAFAYETTE CO SCS "Over the last week, farmers have been getting corn planted."

PONTOTOC CO SCS "We had several days of dry weather to allow land preparation for corn, and to fertilize pastures."

MADISON CO AGT "Has been a good week for farmers. Lime and fertilizer have been applied to a large percentage of the fields. Much of the cotton land has been hepped up."

CLAY CO SCS "The past two days of rain should be good for emerging corn seedlings. However, for some bottomland areas, flooding is causing some problems."

MARSHALL CO AGT "Rains continue to hinder field work."

LEE CO AGT "Cold of Sat. & Sun. could have possibly damaged peaches."

PIKE CO AGT "Good weather conditions the past few days allowed farmers to increase corn acres planted and topdress winter forage crops for hay. Rain this week was needed."

FORREST CO AGT "Disease in wheat is light, some powder mildew. Some corn is up and looking good."

TATE CO AGT "Rain on Wednesday delayed corn planting. Wheat beginning to look fair."

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MAXIMUM SOIL TEMPERATURE
MINIMUM SOIL TEMPERATURE
DFN = DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL

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